

## **Q&A's on a "Revised" Evaluation of Existing Information for Chemical Contamination Within the Salton Sea Ecosystem RFP**

Q. The RFP is not clear on what you are trying to get at. Do you want contaminant information restricted only to the Salton Sea?

A. Those data are of primary interest. Off-Sea data are only of value for this evaluation when they are directly relevant for our focus of in-Sea contamination problems. The goal of this RFP is to have the contractor assemble all of the pertinent contaminant information for any and all studies reporting on the Salton Sea. We want an evaluation of existing data to help us determine what if any new studies, based on that evaluation should be undertaken. That evaluation should be fully supported by references to the broader scientific literature in this subject area. The primary emphasis here is placed on ecological effects. Human health effects are a secondary consideration.

Q. How many citations are you expecting?

A. As many as it takes to give us an adequate evaluation of not only the contaminant data for the Salton Sea, but also an adequate picture of potential ecological effects of those contaminants. Given that there may be multiple elements or compounds of concern, there may be hundreds of citations.

Q. What constitutes primary literature vs. secondary literature, and do you want hard copies, electronic pdf files, a searchable database?

A. The primary literature is published papers and reports relating to contaminants or their effects for the Salton Sea water and sediments, or biota of the Salton Sea. Any unpublished reports and literature from the broader scientific community drawn upon to interpret the potential for biotic effect of findings is secondary literature. We want copies of all literature and reports that constitute the “database” of contamination within the Salton Sea water, sediments, or biota. We do not want copies of textbooks on toxicology, handbooks of toxicology (e.g. textbooks on biogeochemistry of selenium). Literature citations are all that is required for those materials. At a minimum we want hard copies of all residue data specific to the Salton Sea. If you chose to provide additional resources such as electronic pdf files, or a searchable database then you should cost that accordingly in your proposal.